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Economic

<http://www.businessdailyafrica.com/Company%20Industry/Lula%20visit%20deepens%20shift%20in%20Kenyas%20global%20trade/-/539550/954088/-/u682aj/-/index.html>

Lula visit deepens shift in Kenya's global trade

President Luiz Da Silva's Tuesday visit to Nairobi has added fresh impetus to the ongoing shift in Kenya's choice of economic partners in favor of the world's emerging powerhouses such as Brazil, China and India, economists said. The shift, which has been gathering pace since President Kibaki came to power in 2003, has seen Kenya turn East – to China and India – for financial, technical and commercial ties for the headroom it needs to reduce its dependence on Europe and North America. Mr. Da Silva, the Brazilian President, and his Kenyan host came out of a meeting at State House Nairobi with a business deal that promises to unlock new areas of social and economic cooperation, including bio-diesel fuel production and soccer training.

<http://www.businessdailyafrica.com/-/539546/953964/-/ag4c29/-/index.html>

New Nile agreement promises major shift in economies of riparian states

Water, the unlikely commodity that is expected to shape humanity's future is threatening to direct public policy in Eastern Africa with the Nile -- the body of water that has for centuries shaped regional politics and social relations as its driver. The Nile is a typical example of a transboundary water resource — one of many around the world that support 40 per cent of the globe's population. Stretching for 6,650km and serving 10 riparian countries of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan and Egypt, the River Nile basin covers an area of three million square kilometres and supports the livelihoods of about 160 million people.

<http://www.businessdailyafrica.com/Company%20Industry/East%20Africa%20faces%20smuggling%20threat%20in%20excise%20tax%20laws/-/539550/954046/-/wdum8wz/-/index.html>

East Africa faces smuggling threat excise tax laws

Differences in the application of excise tax laws among East African community states has opened fresh room for increased smuggling, illicit trade and unfair competition, the private sector has warned. Tax experts say the conflicting rates, procedures and policies that national governments use are likely to create sub-exchanges within the EAC common market, setting the stage for cross-border smuggling with negative financial implications to governments and firms. In the regional integration process, both the governments and private firms have made huge tax sacrifices in the hope that the relaxed border rules will translate to increased trade volumes and high revenue collection.

<http://www.afrik-news.com/article17915.html>

Africa's growing wealth: the challenge is cohesion

Africa, in the last decade, has experienced a marked economic growth fueled by emerging economies. South-South cooperation, as well as intra-African trade, has jump-started the continent's growth. This comes as the economic center of gravity shifts from industrialized economies to large developing

economies. Africa can only take advantage of the new economic landscape by addressing continental cohesion, infrastructure development, and governance — both at national and cross border levels, to further the continent's economic progress. New trade partners are offering new possibilities as the African continent experiences a new gold rush. The economic center of gravity continues to shift from the industrialized economies to the large developing economies. And emerging economies such as Brazil, Indonesia, India and China are hungry for raw materials, more than ever before, and also need new trading partners for their finished products. Africa provides fertile ground for both.

<http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/-/688334/953552/-/x20q2s/-/index.html>

Uganda: Government approves biggest oil sale

Government yesterday okayed the sale of Heritage Oil assets to its former partner Tullow Oil, signaling an end to the first contentious period in the country's nascent oil sector. With a stroke of the pen, the Minister of Energy, Mr. Hilary Oniek, also made history by approving the single biggest transaction in Uganda's history. "These were essentially two approvals" said Ernest Rubondo, the technical head of the national petroleum programme. He said government had on the one hand allowed Tullow to buy the assets from Heritage on conditional terms and on the other approved Tullow's partners in the transaction, Total and the CNOOC [China National Offshore Oil Corporation]. The deal worth 1.5 billion dollars (Shs3.3 trillion—nearly half Uganda's annual budget) had been held up in part because Heritage had refused to pay 30 per cent capital gains tax levied on it and secondly because government was studying how the trilogy [Tullow, CNOOC, and Total] would operate.

Governance

<http://www.afrik-news.com/article17917.html>

South Africa: Black foreign nationals flee over xenophobic fear attacks

Scores of Zimbabwean and other African immigrants in South Africa, according to reports are making frantic efforts to leave the country at the very earliest amid mounting fears of an more vicious outbreak of xenophobic violence as the FIFA World Cup draws to a close. Rumours fuelled by South Africans have spread across crime infested Johannesburg and other South African cities that once the soccer show is finished next Sunday, foreigners, especially black African immigrants will be attacked and driven out of the continent's richest country in a repeat of the xenophobic violence that shocked the world two years ago.

The 2008 xenophobic attacks left at least 62 foreigners dead and thousands of others displaced, leaving foreign investors unsettled and South Africa's image as one of the more tolerant counties in the world shattered.

<http://www.liberianobserver.com/node/7352>

Taylor did nothing wrong in Sierra Leone

A former Sierra Leonean rebel leader continued to distance Charles Taylor from wrongdoing during the country's bloody 11-year conflict, pointing instead to the United Nations and other Liberian rebel groups who did more to further the rebel cause through weapons supplies and other assistance than the former Liberian president ever did. He also told the court that Mr. Taylor was not responsible for an arms drop-off that is at the center of allegations related to supermodel Naomi Campbell. Issa Sesay, currently serving a 52-year sentence for war crimes and crimes against humanity for his role in the Sierra Leonean conflict, again appeared before the Special Court for Sierra Leone this week but this time as a witness for Mr. Taylor. He is expected to return to his prison in Rwanda shortly after the Court discharges him. Mr. Sesay, the former interim leader of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), the rebel group which Mr. Taylor is alleged to have controlled and supported, explained in detail how West African peacekeepers and Liberian rebels assisted his own rebel forces with arms and ammunition during the war.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJOE66701B20100708>

Debt relief needed to help Zimbabwe- IMF

Zimbabwe's heavy debt burden can only be tackled through international debt forgiveness, according to the International Monetary Fund. An IMF staff paper published on Wednesday, detailing discussions with the Zimbabwean authorities in March, said neither the right economic policies nor the country's mineral wealth could immediately resolve the country's large debt problem. "Zimbabwe is in debt distress, and the debt overhang cannot be resolved without debt relief even if policies are improved and mineral extraction is increased," the paper said.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJOE6660N420100707>

Angola ruling party defectors form opposition group

Defectors from Angola's ruling MPLA party announced plans on Wednesday to form a new political group, saying they aimed to tap into discontent over poverty and corruption. The group called the Democratic Block is small in number and has almost no chance of taking over power, but its leaders are hoping to grab enough seats in parliament in elections in 2012 to make the ruling MPLA more accountable. "We want to change the political landscape by making people aware that they can speak out against corruption and vote for a party that protects their civil rights," Philomena Vieira Lopes, secretary general of the Democratic Block party, told Reuters.

<http://www.nation.co.ke/News/africa/South%20Africa-Rwanda%20ties%20strained%20over%20Johannesburg%20shooting/-/1066/953652/-/b1yxtk/-/index.html>

Rwanda-SA ties strained over shooting

Rwanda has hit back at South Africa over "insinuations" it was behind an attempt to kill a dissident general, which some of Kigali's opponents said was part of a pre-election purge of top brass. Rwandan Foreign Minister Louise Mushikiwabo told AFP she had called in Pretoria's ambassador on Tuesday to express outrage over the conduct of the probe into the shooting of Rwandan general Faustin Kayumba Nyamwasa. "I have summoned the South African ambassador (Gladstone Dumisani Gwadiso) on Tuesday to convey the concern of the Rwandan government over the way the investigation is carried out," Mushikiwabo said. The exiled general was shot and seriously wounded outside his home in Johannesburg on June 19. His wife and some Rwandan opposition media blamed the attack on President Paul Kagame's regime, months before the August 9 election.

<http://www.thisdayonline.com/nview.php?id=177810>

In Abuja To Protest, Militants Get a Hearing

Former Niger Delta militants storm Abuja yesterday in about 14 buses, demanding to be included in the Federal Government Amnesty Programme.

As they protested, security operatives moved in to prevent a breakdown of law and order. But the Special Adviser to the President on Niger Delta Mr. Timi Alaibe said the ex-militants who did not meet the October 4, 2009, deadline to turn in their arms and be documented, may yet be admitted into the programme if a waiver to this effect is granted by President Goodluck Jonathan. Late President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua had on June 25, 2009 proclaimed an unconditional amnesty for Niger Delta militants who agreed to lay down their arms and report to screening centers within 60 days. As at the October 4, 2009 deadline, 20,192 repentant militants were documented. The first batch of 2,000 is currently at Obubra Camp in Obubra Local Government Area of Cross River State, undergoing training. A statement from Alaibe's office signed by Mr. Henry Ugbole said it had become expedient to make some

clarifications "in view of the protest in Abuja today by persons said to be Niger Delta ex-militants who were excluded from the Presidential Amnesty Programme."

<http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/-/688334/953526/-/x20q09/-/index.html>

Somali's demonstrate against UPDF

Hundreds of Somalis in Mogadishu on Monday took to the streets to protest against the continued presence of foreign forces, but an Africa Union spokesman says the demonstration was "stage-managed". "The Al Shabaab organised those demonstrators to show the world that Mogadishu is melting, which is not the case," Maj. Barigye Ba-Hoku, the AMISOM spokesman, said by phone from Somalia. He added: "They are using it as a means of forced recruitment; they have had a lot of losses recently. Even [yesterday], they were fighting among themselves." Anti-government demonstrators, among them women dressed in hijabs (full-body attire that covers the face) and brandishing AK-47 rifles, marched through the streets denouncing Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed's Transitional Federal Government and its international backers. "AMISOM killed my mummy" and "AMISOM get out of our country," read some of the placards, according to AFP.

Conflict

<http://www.afrol.com/articles/36452>

Al Qaeda presence in Maghreb-Sahel "exaggerated"

Researchers hold that the threat of Al Qaeda in the Maghreb and Sahel regions is willingly exaggerated by governments to legitimize strong armies, limited democracy and US military presence. Researcher Muhammad Darif, in an interview with the UK-based 'Quds Press' this week, confirms what many analysts have held earlier. The so-called Al Qaeda in the Maghreb terrorist group is basically defined to Algeria and not a real threat to the region at large. While Mr. Darif confirms the existence of the terrorist group, he reminds that it is rooted in the Algerian civil war in the 1990s. The Algerian Islamist terror group "Salafi Group for Preaching and Combat" in 2006 sought contact with Al Qaeda and in 2007 was admitted as a regional member group.

http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_s_Shebab_vow_to_step_up_jihad_against_AU.shtml

Somalia's Shebab step up Jihad against AU

Hundreds of Shebab supporters vowed Wednesday to intensify the Al Qaeda-inspired group's jihad against African Union troops in Somalia. The demonstration in the central Somali town of Beledweyn was the Islamist insurgent group's reply to a pledge made Monday at a summit of regional states for 2,000 more troops to beef up the beleaguered AU mission in Somalia (AMISOM). "The enemies of Allah met in Ethiopia days ago and agreed to fight against the Holy Koran of Allah," Sheikh Yusuf Said Ugas, Shebab leader for Somalia's Hiran region, told the crowd. "Now we are meeting to unite and fight against them. We will fight to death, until we raise the Islamic flag over this country and establish the greater Islamic state," he said. The six-member Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) announced Monday in Addis Ababa it had decided to rapidly deploy the 2,000 extra troops still needed for AMISOM to reach its intended strength of 8,100.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/world/africa/10540379.stm>

Fear of rape in Kenya's slums trap women

Fear of sexual violence is keeping poor Kenyan women away from communal toilets, and increasing the risk of disease, Amnesty International says. In a report on Kenya's slums, the human rights group said women and girls were afraid to leave their shacks at night. As a result they were risking contracting diseases such as dysentery and cholera, the report said. About 60% of Nairobi residents, about two

million people, live in slums with limited access to water and sanitation. Amnesty criticised a lack of policing in the shantytowns and the government's failure to enforce planning laws and regulations. It called on the Kenyan government to address violence against women and to ensure women's access to sanitation and public security services.

<http://www.nation.co.ke/News/africa/Sudanese%20security%20detains%20youth%20activists%20/-/1066/953990/-/hig2q8z/-/index.html>

Sudanese security detain youth activists

The Sudanese security service detained three youth activists for two days in the latest sign of a clampdown ahead of a sensitive referendum on southern independence, their group said today. Police arrested three young men from the group Girifna — Arabic for “we are fed up” — as they distributed campaign newspapers in a Khartoum market late on Monday, Grifna a spokesman from the organisation said. “The security men took them from the police and they beat them,” said group founder Nagi Musa, who told Reuters he visited one of the men in the police station on Tuesday.

Corruption

<http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/-/688334/953554/-/x20q2u/-/index.html>

Kampala tops new corruption list

Government officials digging their hand into the till to directly pull out public funds remains the top form of corruption, the Inspectorate of government has said in a new report. At 19.4 percent of complaints recorded at the IGG, mismanagement and misappropriation of public resources is the most reported form of corruption. Ugandans also view and complain about non-payment of salaries at 18.7 per cent, followed by abuse of office at 17.8 per cent, delays in delivery of services, which often leads to solicitation and offering of bribes stands at 9.1 per cent. Property disputes, also viewed as a form of corruption stand at 7.3 per cent.

<http://www.leadershipnigeria.com/news/cover-stories/17227-fg-seeks-extradition-of-akingbola>

FG seeks extradition of Akingbola

Federal Government has invoked its extradition laws and applied to the United Kingdom for the arrest and extradition to Nigeria of Mr. Erastus Akingbola, former managing director of Intercontinental Bank plc who fled the country following charges of fraud against him by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) while he served at the bank. Akingbola is wanted in Nigeria by the EFCC to face trial at the Federal High Court, Lagos on 28- count charge relating to financial misappropriation, money laundering, financial malpractices, corrupt practices and related offences. The Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Mohammed Bello Adoke, (SAN) in a letter to the Home Secretary, United Kingdom Central Authority conveying the request of the federal government for the extradition states.

<http://www.leadershipnigeria.com/news/cover-stories/17225-halliburton-saipem-eni-to-pay-365m-in-lng-bribery-case>

Halliburton: Saipem, Eni to pay \$365m in LNG bribery case

Italian oilfield services company, Saipem SpA and parent Eni SpA, will pay a total of \$365 million to resolve United States' probes into a bribery case in Nigeria's oil sector, Eni said yesterday. The payment, the third so far, is to settle charges that Eni's former Dutch subsidiary, Snamprogetti, participated in the scheme to bribe Nigerian officials in construction contract, which includes deliveries of cash-filled briefcases and vehicles to Nigerian government officials to win construction contracts. Snamprogetti Netherlands, a Saipem unit, will pay \$240 million under an accord with the U.S. Justice Department to resolve bribery charges stemming from contracts to build liquid natural gas facilities at Bonny Island, Eni

said in a statement. "If it satisfies the terms of the agreement, the charges against Snamprogetti Netherlands B.V. will be dismissed," said Eni, an oil company which owns 43 per cent of Saipem.

<http://www.leadershipnigeria.com/news/cover-stories/17222-efcc-seeks-better-protection-for-whistle-blowers>

EFCC seeks better pay for whistle blowers

...wants stiffer penalties for money launderers || Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, Mrs. Farida Waziri has called for the inclusion of provisions that would protect informants of financial crimes even as she urged the National Assembly to take urgent legislative measures to strengthen Nigeria 's laws against money laundering to avert sanctions from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). Waziri who made the call Wednesday at the public hearing organized by the House Committee on Drugs, Narcotics and Financial Crimes on the proposed bills on measures to combat terrorism and money laundering (prohibition) bill said, many Nigerians had information about criminal activities going on around the country but were often afraid to divulge them for fear of being attacked. She said "In other countries, they have laws to protect your informants so that he is not exposed; he does not come to harm. If you give us information, and you are prepared to stand by what you've given us, you want to go to court, okay.

<http://www.liberianobserver.com/node/7351>

Drugs trafficker arrested in Gbarnga

Police in Gbarnga, Bong County, have arrested and detained a 43 year- old man identified as Abraham Nicolas with 86 parcels of Thailand White and eight parcel of marijuana. Police in the provincial capital have charged suspect Nicolas with "illegal possession of narcotic substance" and him been incarcerated at the infamous Jorla Prison awaiting court trial. According to the Chief of the Crime Services Division (CSD) of the Liberia National Police Bong County Detachment, Inspector Alvin James, the alleged drug trafficker was apprehended by police over the weekend in the town of Sergeant Kollie Town (SKT), about 25km outside of Gbarnga, following police tipoff. SKT is situated in Suakoko District and plays host to mixed tribes and is being considered by many people as "Gbarnga West Point" because of its high crime rate in the region. Inspector James described the arrest of suspect Nicolas as a boost for his detachment because, according to him, police had long been investigating information about the suspect's alleged involvement in drug dealing. "Nicolas has finally fallen in police dragnet. Ninety-nine days for thief, one day for the master," the CSD local boss affirmed with beam.

Technology

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/10536273.stm>

Fault disrupts internet cable to East Africa

An undersea cable that brought high-speed net access to East Africa for the first time has been hit by a fault, knocking many in the region offline. The owners of the Seacom cable said the exact cause of the fault was "still being investigated", but was thought to originate off the Kenyan coast. The cable, finished in 2009, connects South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Mozambique to Europe and Asia. Seacom said it has "initiated emergency repairs", which may take eight days. "This unexpected failure affects traffic towards both India and Europe. Traffic within Africa is not affected," it said in a statement.